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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/576,686	05/23/2000	Paul B. Darcy	MFCP.70154	3725

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EXAMINER

WOO, RICHARD SUKYOON

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 06/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/576,686

Applicant(s)

DARCY ET AL.

Examiner

Richard Woo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-20,30,32-35,43 and 44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-20,30,32-35,43 and 44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

- 1) The applicant's amendments filed April 14, 2005 has been entered.
- 2) Applicant's arguments filed April 14, 2005, with respect to rejection under 35 U.S.C. section 112 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to an applicant's argument that Claims 19-20 and 34-35 are dependent claims that further define the claimed invention, the examiner respectfully traverses it. The alleged independent claims 1 and 30 are directed to a method claim but the dependent claims 19-20 and 34-35 are directed to a computer-readable medium. Accordingly, it is not clear how the computer readable medium claim can be depending on the independent method claim.

Applicant's arguments, filed April 14, 2005, with respect to rejections under section 102 as being anticipated by "Strothmann .." have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejections of corresponding claims have been withdrawn.

- 3) The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

- 4) The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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5) Claims 19-20 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In Claim 19, the claim is directed to a computer readable medium but it has the dependence on Claim 1, method Claim. See Supra Response to Arguments.

Claims 20 and 34-35 suffer the same indefiniteness as Claim 19 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6) Claims 1, 3-6, 19-20, 30, 34-35, and 44, as far as Claims 19-20, 34-35 are definite, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Strothmann (US 5,745,880).

W.R.T. Claim 1:

Strothmann discloses a method comprising:

identifying one or more underlying services (moving a single application function, migrating all of the functions on the existing computer platform, or migrating a selected number of functions) utilized to execute the computer transaction (see Fig. 1 and Tables A-P); and

determining a monetary service providing a cost associated with the one or more services to execute the transaction, wherein determining the monetary service providing cost includes:

identifying each resource (hardware, software, personnel and facility) utilized to provide the one or more service (see col. 2, lines 56-64); and

assigning a portion of the monetary service providing cost of each resource to the computer transaction (see Supra Tables A-P); and

summing the monetary service providing cost for each resource to determine the monetary cost for the computer transaction in order to pass the cost for the transaction to a user executing the computer transaction (see Supra Fig. 1 and Tables A-P).

W.R.T. Claim 3: Strothmann further discloses the method, wherein equipment is a utilized resource (see Supra Fig. 1 and Tables A-P for the hardware) and the determining step includes calculating the equipment cost as a percentage of an overall equipment cost for equipment utilized to execute the transaction (e.g. see Table A for the percentage of an overall equipment cost).

W.R.T. Claim 4: Strothmann further discloses the method, wherein the software is a utilized resource (see Id.) and the monetary service providing cost includes an software cost and the determining step includes calculating the software cost as a percentage of an overall equipment cost (see Id.);

W.R.T. Claim 5: Strothmann further discloses the method, wherein the personnel is a utilized resource (e.g. see Tables C and E) and the monetary service providing cost includes a personnel cost and the determining step includes calculating the personnel cost as a percentage of an overall equipment cost (see Id.); and

W.R.T. Claim 6: Strothmann further discloses the method, wherein the facility is a utilized resource (see Table G and col. 7, lines 12-19) and the monetary service

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providing cost includes a facility cost and the determining step includes calculating the facility cost as a percentage of an overall equipment cost (see Id.).

W.R.T. Claim 19: Strothmann further discloses the medium (see Supra Claim 1); and

W.R.T. Claim 20: Strothmann further discloses the system (see Supra Claim 1).

W.R.T. Claim 30:

Strothmann discloses a method comprising:

requesting execution of a transaction (Inherently, the user must request execution of service initially);

receiving the user process request (the service provider receives the request);

executing the user process request (see Figs. 1-2); and

determining a monetary cost associated with the execution of the transaction as a function of the services utilized to execute the transaction, wherein determining the monetary service provider cost includes identifying each resource (col. 2, lines 56-64) utilized to provide the service and assigning a portion of the monetary service provider cost of each resource to the computer transaction in order to pass the monetary service provider cost to the user executing the computer transaction (see Supra Fig. 1 and Tables A-P).

W.R.T. Claim 34: Strothmann further discloses the medium (see Supra Claim 30); and

W.R.T. Claim 35: Strothmann further discloses the system (see Supra Claim 30).

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W.R.T. Claim 44:

Strothmann discloses a system comprising:

a service identification component (moving a single application function, migrating all of the functions on the existing computer platform, or migrating a selected number of functions) (see Fig. 1 and Tables A-P);

a resource identification component (hardware, software, personnel and facility) (see col. 2, lines 56-64);

a cost assessment component for determining a monetary cost to a provider for each resource and determining the monetary cost for the transaction based on a total monetary service provider cost for each utilized resource (see Supra Fig. 1 and Tables A-P).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7) Claim 43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strothmann.

Strothmann discloses the invention considering a plurality of cost resources (e.g. hardware, software, facility, personnel, and other costs as recited earlier, but does not disclose expressly discloses that which of these known business costs is directed to the fixed cost resource or variable source.

The consideration of fixed or variable cost resources is a key factor in the success of any cost modeling business. Businesses have resorted to many different techniques of obtaining the necessary cost resources including: equipment, software, personnel, and facility cost resource, and some of these resources would be further classified as the fixed cost (such as lease payment for the facility, or contracted personnel expense for a certain term) or variable cost. This practice is well known in the business community and would follow in the computer transaction business as well where a plurality of costs would be passed to a user for utilizing the service.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method of Strothmann such that the invention include identifying the fixed cost resource and the variable cost resources and summing a monetary service providing cost for the fixed cost resource and a monetary service providing cost for the variable cost resource for the purpose of providing the user with the total costs of utilizing the required service by factoring into the fixed and variable cost resources the decision making.

8) Claims 7-18 and 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strothmann in view of Modeling Resources Allocation and Performance Measures in Distributed Computer Networks (hereinafter Modeling).

As for Claims 7, 18 and 32, Strothmann discloses the invention as recited earlier, but does not expressly discloses the method including determining a cost for a level of quality of the one or more services.

Modeling teaches for a cost modeling of the computer transactions, that the invention includes determining a cost for a level of quality of the service (see pages 583-585; Figs. 1-4 and Tables 1-3 for optimal configurations (more optimized, better performance)).

Since Modeling and Strothmann are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Modeling would have been well recognized in the pertinent field of Strothmann.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to determine the cost for the level of quality of the service, as taught by Modeling, for the purpose of providing a more complete model that integrates most aspects (including the cost for the level of quality of services) of the computer transaction to handle cost structures.

As for Claims 8-12 and 33, the modified method of Strothmann discloses the invention as recited earlier, but does not expressly disclose the method including: determining a cost for the availability of the services (equipment, facility, personnel, etc.,).

Modeling teaches for a cost modeling of the computer transactions, that the invention includes determining a cost for the availability of the services (see page 583 for Database availability; for example). The consideration of a cost for the availability of

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the service is a key factor in the success of any cost modeling business. A cost for the availability of the service is crucial to determine whether it is feasible to request the service when the cost for the availability of the service is too high. This practice is well known in the business community and would follow in the computer transaction business as well where a plurality of costs would be passed to a user for utilizing the service.

Since Modeling and Strothmann are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Modeling would have been well recognized in the pertinent field of Strothmann.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to further modify the method of Strothmann such that the determining the cost for the quality of the service includes determining a cost for the availability of the various services and calculate the various costs (equipment, personnel, etc.) as a percentage of an overall cost to provide the availability of the services, as taught by Modeling, for the purpose of providing the cost modeling that handle more complex situations.

As for Claims 13-17, the modified method of Strothmann discloses the invention as recited above, but does not specifically disclose the method including the step of determining a cost for the quality of services including determining a cost of the response time of the services.

Modeling further teaches the method, wherein the step of determining a cost for the quality of services includes determining a cost of the response time of the services (see Time Delay, page 583; see chapter 4.1, pages 583-584).

Since Modeling and Strothmann are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Modeling would have been well recognized in the pertinent field of Strothmann.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to further modify the method of Strothmann such that the determining the cost for the quality of service includes determining a cost of the response time of the services and calculate the various resource costs (equipment, personnel, etc.) as a percentage of an overall cost to provide the response time of the services, as taught by Modeling, for the purpose of providing a more complete model that integrates most aspects (including the cost response time of the services) of the computer transaction to handle cost structures.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

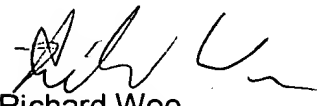
US 6,219,654 is cited to show a method and system for performing cost analysis of an enterprise of Information Technology businesses. The invention enables a

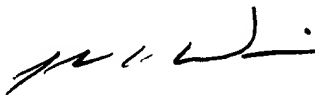
solution assessment for determining business solutions related to any and all aspects of a business enterprise and for generating deliverables including solution proposals.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Woo whose telephone number is 571-272-6813. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM -5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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Art Unit 3639
June 16, 2005


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